

Regarding the Allowable Claims

Applicants appreciate the Examiner's indication that claims 6-22 and 24-27 are allowable over the cited art of record.

Regarding the § 112 Rejection

Claims 1-5 and 23 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants appreciate the Examiner's comments and have amended claim 1 to require that the math coprocessor be for performing encryption calculations. Applicants respectfully submit that by this Amendment, the means for encryption is clearly and definitely recited in claim 1. Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, as amended is definite and particularly points out and distinctly claims the subject matter which the Applicants regard as the invention. Applicants respectfully request that this § 112 rejection be withdrawn.

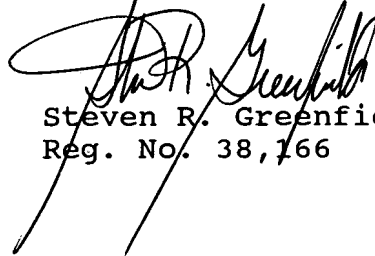
With respect to the remaining rejected claims, being claims 2-5 and 23, these claims are either directly or indirectly dependent upon independent claim 1, and therefore have overcome the § 112 rejection for the same reasons as stated above with respect to claim 1. Applicants respectfully request that the § 112 rejection be withdrawn from these claims.

Applicants note that with respect to claim 2, this claim has been amended by inserting the words "data carrier" to make the claim more definite and to better point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which the Applicant regards as the invention. Applicants believe that claim 2 is also ready for allowance.

In view of the above, it is believed that this application is in condition for allowance, and such a Notice is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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